

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00
OIC-02 NSC-05 /066 W
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P 061651Z MAY 77
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3481
SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO CINCLANT NORFOLK VA
USLOSACLANT NORFOLK VA
USNMR SHAPE BE
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 NATO 02806

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL, NATO, DPC
SUBJECT: DPC MINISTERIAL DECISIONS ON US INITIATIVES

REF: USNATO 2709 (DTG 050825Z MAY 77)

SUMMARY: THIS MESSAGE (A) PROPOSES SPECIFIC LANGUAGE FOR
MINISTERIAL ENDORSEMENT OF US DEFENSE INITIATIVES AT THE
DPC AND (B) SUGGESTS A SCENARIO FOR ACHIEVING MINISTERIAL
APPROVAL OF THIS LANGUAGE. END SUMMARY.

1. IN PREPARATION FOR THE DPC MINISTERIAL, WE BELIEVE IT
WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO ADVISE ALLIES BEFOREHAND OF OUR
PREFERRED OUTCOME IN THE FORM OF SPECIFIC DECISION
LANGUAGE FOR MINISTERIAL ENDORSEMENT OF US LONG- AND
SHORT-TERM DEFENSE INITIATIVES (REFTEL). THIS
LANGUAGE COULD RESULT EITHER FROM DECISIONS TAKEN IN THE
RESTRICTED SESSION OR FROM PLENARY SESSION, OR BOTH.

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2. MINISTERIAL ENDORSEMENT. WE SUGGEST THAT THE SPECIFIC
MINISTERIAL DECISIONS AT THE DPC SHOULD BE CAST AS
FOLLOWS: BEGIN TEXT:

IN PURSUIT OF THE MANDATE GIVEN THEM BY HEADS OF STATE
AND GOVERNMENT, MINISTERS

- (1) AGREED UPON THE NEED FOR A LONG-TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM TO ASSIST IN IMPLEMENTING MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE 1977 AND TO ADAPT THE DETERRENT AND DEFENSE POSTURE OF THE ALLIANCE TO THE NEEDS OF THE 1980S.
- (2) INVITED THE DEFENSE PLANNING COMMITTEE IN PERMANENT SESSION TO PREPARE SUCH A LONG-TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM FOR THEIR APPROVAL AT THE SPRING 1978 MINISTERIAL MEETING:
 - (A) THIS LONG-TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM SHOULD CONSIST OF A SERIES OF ABOUT EIGHT TO TEN INDIVIDUAL PROGRAMS PREPARED BY THE NATO MILITARY AUTHORITIES. EACH INDIVIDUAL PROGRAM SHOULD:
 - (I) ADDRESS A SERIOUS DEFICIENCY IDENTIFIED IN THE MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE;
 - (II) SET FORTH NATIONAL AND COLLECTIVE CONTRIBUTIONS IN AS PROGRAMMATIC TERMS AS FEASIBLE; AND
 - (III) ESTABLISH TIME-PHASING FOR ACCOMPLISHMENT.
 - (B) THE NEED FOR STRENGTHENED NATO PROGRAMMING AND IMPLEMENTING MACHINERY TO HELP DESIGN PROGRAMS AND INSURE THEIR FOLLOW-THROUGH SHOULD BE ASSESSED IN THE COURSE OF DEVELOPING THE LONG-TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM.
 - (C) A PROGRESS REPORT SHOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR MINISTERIAL REVIEW AT THE DECEMBER 1977 MEETING.

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- (3) AGREED, IN ORDER TO ADDRESS ON AN URGENT BASIS CERTAIN CRITICAL DEFICIENCIES ALREADY IDENTIFIED BY THE NATO MILITARY AUTHORITIES, UPON THE NEED SELECTIVELY TO IMPROVE THE ALLIANCE'S POSTURE FOR DEFENSE AGAINST ARMOR, IN HOLDINGS OF CERTAIN WAR RESERVE MUNITIONS STOCKS AND IN THE READINESS AND RAPID REINFORCEMENT CAPABILITIES OF ALLIED FORCES.
- (4) INVITED THE NATO MILITARY AUTHORITIES TO FORWARD TO DPC PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES AS SOON AS FEASIBLE, BUT IN NO CASE LATER THAN 60 DAYS, THEIR RECOMMENDATIONS FOR INTERIM OBJECTIVES, BY NATION, CAPABLE OF BEING MET BY DECEMBER 1978:
 - (A) FOR HOLDINGS OF ANTI-ARMOR WEAPONS SYSTEMS;
 - (B) FOR HOLDINGS OF SELECTED WAR RESERVE MUNITIONS STOCKS;
 - (C) FOR IMPROVEMENT OF CRITICAL DEFICIENCIES IN

THE READINESS OF NATO FORCES AND IN ALLIED CAPABILITIES
FOR RAPID REINFORCEMENT.

- (5) UNDERTOOK TO CONSIDER WAYS TO MEET THESE INTERIM
OBJECTIVES, EITHER THROUGH ADDITIONS TO PLANNED FUNDING
LEVELS, OR THROUGH REPROGRAMMING OR REALLOCATION OF
RESOURCES, IN ORDER TO FULFILL THESE REQUIREMENTS OF THE
NATO MILITARY AUTHORITIES, AND TO REPORT THEIR INTENTIONS
AT THE DECEMBER 1977 MEETING. END TEXT.

3. WE THINK IT BEST THAT THE ABOVE LANGUAGE, OR A

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 NATO 02806

SUITABLE SUBSTITUTE, BE APPROVED BY MINISTERS AS A RESULT
OF THEIR DISCUSSION IN THE RESTRICTED SESSION, ALTHOUGH
IT COULD, IN ADDITION, WITH MINOR MODIFICATIONS, BE
REPEATED AS DECISION LANGUAGE RESULTING FROM THE PLENARY
SESSION ITEM ON MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE. WE HAVE ATTEMPTED
TO GIVE DUE WEIGHT TO THE FOLLOWING ALLIED VIEWS WE
HEARD EXPRESSED DURING AMBASSADOR KOMER'S RECENT VISIT
TO EUROPE: (A) THE STRONG VIEW OF MOD LEBER THAT SHORT-
TERM MEASURES SHOULD HAVE AS MUCH VISIBILITY (ALTHOUGH
POSSIBLY ULTIMATELY LESS IMPACT) AS THOSE FOR THE LONG-
TERM; (B) THE STRONG VIEW OF MG BRANDT, SECONDED BY
DR. STUETZLE AND SEVERAL MILREPS, THAT DPC MINISTERIAL
DECISION LANGUAGE SHOULD INCLUDE CONSIDERATION OF THE

POSSIBLE NEED FOR TRADEOFFS, OR REPROGRAMMINGS, WITHIN NATIONAL DEFENSE PROGRAMS; AND (C) THE UK VIEW (STRONGLY STATED BY D/US QUINLAN) THAT SHORT-TERM INITIATIVES NEED TO BE AFFORDABLE.

4. WE SEE THE FOLLOWING SCENARIO AS BEST FOR STIMULATING CONFIDENTIAL

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MINISTERIAL DECISION LANGUAGE ALONG THE LINES OF THE TEXT IN PARA 2 ABOVE:

- A. MAY 9: WASHINGTON APPROVAL OF A FINAL TEXT.
- B. MAY 10: USNATO LIAISON WITH AVAILABLE IS SENIOR OFFICIALS OFFERING THIS TEXT AS A "DECISION OUTCOME" TO BE RECORDED FROM DPC RESTRICTED SESSION.
- C. MAY 11: POSSIBLE INCLUSION OF TEXT AS AN ANNEX TO THE LETTER WHICH, WE UNDERSTAND, SECRETARY BROWN MAY FORWARD TO ALL DPC MODS DESCRIBING US INITIATIVES FOR SUMMIT RESPONSE. ALTERNATIVELY, WE COULD FORWARD THE TEXT TO ALL NATO DELEGATIONS, AS US-DESIRED DECISION LANGUAGE, FOR FURTHER TRANSMISSION TO CAPITALS. A THIRD ALTERNATIVE WOULD BE TO PROVIDE LANGUAGE TO MINISTERS FOR APPROVAL AT OR FOLLOWING THE RESTRICTED SESSION. WE FAVOR TAKING SYG LUNS' ADVICE ON THESE ALTERNATIVES.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: GUIDANCE BY OOB MAY 10 ON TEXT PARA 2 AND SCENARIO PARA 4. BENNETT

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